

Filed for intro on 05/17/1999

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 257
By Patton

A RESOLUTION to designate May 18, 1999 as "Storytelling Day on Capitol Hill".

WHEREAS, storytelling is a major element of our rich historical and cultural heritage that is important today in our daily lives in enhancing learning, improving communication, combating illiteracy and enriching our existence by linking us to our families, communities, and to other cultures; and

WHEREAS, America is enjoying new appreciation and awareness for the power and importance of storytelling in today's society—the result of a revival that began in Tennessee 25 years ago; and

WHEREAS, the current awareness was ignited in 1973 by the first National Storytelling Festival, which is now being held every year in Jonesborough, Tennessee, establishing Tennessee's oldest town as the birthplace of America's storytelling revival; and

WHEREAS, today the National Storytelling Festival is the premier storytelling event anywhere in America and throughout the world, bringing international recognition to Jonesborough and the state of Tennessee; and

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WHEREAS, Storytelling Foundation International, in honor of storytelling and its Tennessee roots, is developing the National Storytelling Center in Jonesborough to serve as a beacon for storytelling worldwide, a launching pad for national and international outreach and advocacy programs, and a year-round presence for storytelling in Jonesborough that will attract tourists and generate \$10 million dollars in new sales and \$1 million in new tax dollars each year; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby designate May 18, 1999 as "Storytelling Day on Capitol Hill" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all citizens of the great State of Tennessee are encouraged to reflect upon and acknowledge the importance of stories in connecting to our family heritage, forming our family values, and in maintaining the common thread running through all races and cultures that is the essence of our being human.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

